

PUBLIC UTILITIES RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

Chapter 15 Public Proceedings

Rule 15

101 Public Hearings

1. Open to the Public

All hearings conducted by the Commission are open to the public and hearings conducted in the Commission's Courtroom, may be viewed on the Internet through the Commission's website. Provided however that the Commission may close the hearing in order to protect any trade secrets, confidential information or other matters exempt from public disclosure, and during such closed hearings the Internet broadcast will be stopped.

2. When Held

The Commission shall hold full or abbreviated public hearings in all matters where:

- a. Public hearing is required by law or Commission regulation.
- b. In the discretion of the Commission, it is necessary or appropriate to hold such public hearings.

3. Abbreviated Proceedings

Abbreviated proceedings may satisfy a requirement of public hearing if the Commission's order is supported by the data, documentation and exhibits on file in the proceedings. Abbreviated proceedings may include, but shall not be limited to, proceedings wherein factual or procedural determination are made by order of the Commission upon written stipulations between the utility and the Staff, provided that all parties are afforded an opportunity to submit in writing, argument, evidence and testimony in contravention to the proposed stipulated facts or procedure or in support or opposition to regulatory policy making.

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